

Romania

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COUNTRY

TOPIC 1. Military Units and Buildings in Arad

2. Romanian Units in Caransebes

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT prior to December 1951

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 10 October 1952

25X1 REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In August 1951, Soviet tanks and trucks carrying Soviet soldiers were repeatedly seen entering or leaving the citadel east of Arad (R 16/U 16). Sometimes, up to three tanks with large bogie wheels participated in infantry exercises in the area west of the old fortress. They executed all sorts of movements and were attacked by groups of 20 to 25 soldiers who wore either black or red epaulets.
- 25X1 the tanks were stationed in the old fortress, but unable to state where the soldiers participating in the exercises came from. Local residents believed that 300 to 400 Soviet soldiers were quartered in the old fortress. *
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2. Prior to December 1951, motorized Soviet units were quartered in the former Cavalry Barracks in the northern section of Arad. This old Rumanian barracks installation was west of the main railroad station, on the north side of Calea Aurel Vlaicu opposite the Astra car plant on the south side of this street. The car plant was east of Calea Victoriei which joins Calea Aurel Vlaicu from the south. An old three-story barracks building on Calea Aurel Vlaicu was intact, while other buildings in the barracks area were still destroyed. Soldiers with red epaulets were seen. Five or six guns, of about 100-mm caliber, and three-axle trucks were noticed in the northern section of the barracks area. Trucks carrying soldiers and towing guns were seen leaving the installation only occasionally.
3. In November 1951, Soviet soldiers occupied the old Rumanian barracks installation on the west side of Calea Victoriei and the square which was bounded on the north by the Calea Aurel Vlaicu. The barracks installation was estimated to cover an area of 250 x 200 meters. Trucks carrying Soviet soldiers were repeatedly seen leaving the barracks area. No heavy weapons were noticed.

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4. [redacted] a new barracks installation on the north side of Calea Aurel Vlaicu, about 3 km from the main railroad station. The installation, which needed repair, consisted of an administration building and at least two multi-story buildings. About 400 Rumanian soldiers wearing olivegreen uniforms were seen in the installation in March 1951. [redacted] they were recruits. The officers wore flat caps with a green band and light green epaulets with a burning torch insignia. Some trucks and small cross-country vehicles were parked in the barracks area. **

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5. Prior to September 1951, the citadel in Arad still had only one exit with a road leading westward across the new reinforced concrete bridge over the Muresul River and another road leading along the eastern bank of the river toward Aradul Nou. Both roads were used by Soviet armored vehicles. The area of the citadel was about 1 km in diameter. Quarters, accessible only from the inside, were built into the wall around this citadel and there were other quarters, administrative buildings, and headquarters buildings in the center of the citadel. The fortified area was bordered on the south by a woods.
6. Prior to the fall of 1951, Soviet troops occupied the San Nicolaul Mic (R 17/U 15) barracks installation just east of the junction of the Arad-Timisoara (R 16/T 91) railroad lines and the Aradul Nou-San Nicolaul Mic road, just north of this road. [redacted] guns, trucks and armored vehicles. The Arad-Aradul Nou bridge across the Muresul River was rebuilt as a concrete bridge. The rebuilding work had not been completed in the fall of 1951. ***

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7. [redacted] the barracks installation of the former Rumanian 56th Artillery Regt on the west side of Calea Victoriei, and the former Cavalry Barracks west of the main railroad station were occupied by Soviet units. These installations had suffered serious damage during World War II when the car building plant across from the Cavalry Barracks was bombed. No reconstruction work was done. The ground floors, which had remained usable, were occupied by Soviet units.

8. [redacted] In the fall of 1951, Rumanian soldiers were seen in Ingelsbrunn (R 16/U 15) during the maneuver period. From these soldiers it was learned that Rumanian maneuvers took place in the area between Arad and Timisoara.

9. An Ethnic German, who was discharged in November 1951, stated that he had served with a Rumanian alpine unit in Caransebes (R 25/U 76).

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Comment:

* Soviet tanks in the fortress of Arad were previously reported by resettlers in the fall of 1951.

[redacted] Comment: These units are probably Rumanian border units.

[redacted] Comment: This barracks installation was previously reported as being occupied by Soviet units prior to December 1951.

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